

REMARKS

By the foregoing Amendment, Claims 14, 16, 17, 24, 49, 50, 52, and 61 are amended and Claims 62-75 are cancelled. Entry of the Amendment, and favorable consideration thereof, is earnestly requested. Claims 1-13, 15 and 29-48 having been previously cancelled, and Claims 62-75 being cancelled herein, Claims 14, 16-28 and 49-61 remain pending.

Claims 14, 16-28 and 49-75 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite and failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 14, 16, 17, 24, 49, 50, 52, and 61 have been amended, and Claims 62-75 have been cancelled, so as to obviate this rejection.

Claims 62-74 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,513,532 to Mault et al. Claims 62-74 have been cancelled.

It should be noted that the above amendments have been discussed with the Examiner, and that the Examiner had agreed to make the above amendments by Examiner's Amendment and to allow the case. However, it appears that due to clerical confusion within the USPTO, the Examiner's Amendment has not yet been entered or mailed. Today being the six month statutory deadline for responding to

the outstanding Office Action, the present Response is being filed so as to ensure that this application does not become unintentionally abandoned.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims, namely Claims 14, 16-28 and 49-61, are patentable over the references of record, and earnestly solicits allowance of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd M. Oberdick", is written over a horizontal line.

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